REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-20 are presently pending in this case.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib (U.S. Patent No. 6,728,378) in view of Dyer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,625,592, hereinafter "Dyer"); Claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kaufman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,772, hereinafter "Kaufman"); Claims 7 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kitamura (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020016917); Claims 8 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and Kitamura and further in view of Kaufman; Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Schneier (Applied Cryptography, Second Edition); and Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Inada (U.S. Patent No. 6,986,044).

With regard to the rejection of Claims 1 and 13 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites in part, "control means for controlling the hash value generation means and the public key encryption processing means, the control means suppressing arithmetic operations performed by the public key encryption processing means when the hash value generation means accesses the storage means."

The outstanding Office Action conceded that Garib does not teach or suggest this feature, and cited Dyer as describing this subject matter.[1] Dyer describes a method of searching a memory by storing data entries arranged using hash values. Dyer describes that the hash values for multiple data entries can be computed sequentially or in parallel.[2] However, this description of sequential processing only relates to the ***computation*** of hash values for ***other data entries***. It is respectfully submitted that Dyer does not describe the suppression of any actions while a hash function accesses a storage means, much less suppressing public key encryption processing means when a hash function ***accesses a storage means***. In fact, as Dyer describes searching a memory using hash values, Dyer certainly does not teach or suggest public key encryption processing means. Therefore, Dyer does not teach or suggest "control means suppressing arithmetic operations performed by the public key encryption processing means when the hash value generation means ***accesses the storage means***" as defined in Claim 1.

Further, the motivation provided by the outstanding Office Action is irrelevant to the invention recited in Claim 1. The outstanding Office Action states "it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use Dyer's system for hash scanning of shared memory interfaces with Garib's secret key messaging because it offers the advantage of being faster to traverse the hash memory (Dyer, Col. 2 Lines 7-21)." However, the claimed invention does not traverse multiple entries in a hash memory. The claimed invention uses a hash value for ***encryption*** purposes. Thus, there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the art to look at the searching mechanism of Dyer, much less to combine it with Garib's invention.

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[1]See the outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 5-18.
[2]See Dyer, column 5, lines 14-20.

Consequently, as Garib and Dyer do not teach each and every element of Claim 1, and there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Garib and Dyer, Claim 1 (and Claims 2-12 dependent therefrom) is patentable over Garib and Dyer.

Claim 13 recites in part "a control unit configured to control the hash value generation unit and the public key encryption processing unit, the control unit configured to suppress arithmetic operations performed by the public key encryption processing unit when the hash value generation unit accesses the storage unit."

As noted above, Dyer does not describe that any particular operation is suppressed when a hash function accesses a storage unit, much less suppressing arithmetic operations performed by a public key encryption processing unit when a hash value generation unit accesses a storage unit. As further noted above, there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Garib and Dyer. Consequently, as Garib and Dyer do not teach each and every element of Claim 13, and there is no suggestion or motivation to combine Garib and Dyer, Claim 13 (and Claims 14-20 dependent therefrom) is also patentable over Garib and Dyer.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kaufman, it is noted that Claims 3 and 4 are dependent from Claim 1 and Claims 15 and 16 are dependent from Claim 13, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Kaufman does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Garib and Dyer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 3, 4, 15, and 16 are patentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kaufman.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 7 and 19 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kitamura, it is noted that Claim 7 is dependent from Claim 1 and Claim 19 is dependent from Claim 13, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Kitamura does not cure any

of the above-noted deficiencies of Garib and Dyer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 7 and 19 are patentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Kitamura.

With regard to the rejection of Claims 8 and 20 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and Kitamura and further in view of Kaufman, it is noted that Claim 8 is dependent from Claim 1 and Claim 20 is dependent from Claim 13, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Kitamura and Kaufman do not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Garib and Dyer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 8 and 20 are patentable over Garib in view of Dyer and Kitamura and further in view of Kaufman.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 10 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Schneier, it is noted that Claim 10 is dependent from Claim 1, and thus is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Schneier does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Garib and Dyer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 10 is patentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Schneier.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 12 as unpatentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Inada, it is noted that Claim 12 is dependent from Claim 1, and thus is believed to be patentable for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, it is respectfully submitted that Inada does not cure any of the above-noted deficiencies of Garib and Dyer. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 12 is patentable over Garib in view of Dyer and further in view of Inada.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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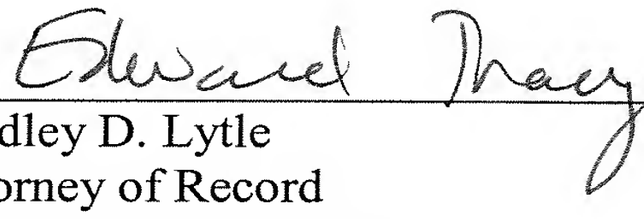

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